



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Police Charge Man with Assaulting Child on Sidewalk

Howard County Police arrested a 43-year-old man last night for grabbing a child on the sidewalk of an Ellicott City neighborhood. Michael Anthony Kouropis (DOB: 6/26/60), of 8804 Manahan Dr. in Ellicott City, was charged with second-degree assault against a 6-year-old boy.

Police received a call around 5 p.m. from a citizen who reported that he saw a man grabbing a small child by the arm. He reported that it appeared the man was forcing the child to walk with him. The caller said he saw the boy break away from the man and run.

Officers responded to the area and observed a man matching the suspect's description walking in the neighborhood. An officer requested that the man stop, but he continued walking and increased his pace. A brief foot pursuit ensued before the officer could stop and detain the suspect.

Another officer in the area located a small boy in the neighborhood who appeared to be upset. He approached the boy, who advised that a man known to him as a neighbor named "Billy" had grabbed him and forced him to walk along the sidewalk. He said he believed "Billy" was trying to take him somewhere, but he was able to break free and run away. The boy identified Kouropis as the man he knew as "Billy."

The child in this case will not be identified due to his age and the nature of the crime. Police are continuing to investigate the incident.

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